

NOTE:

In preparing materials for this month's State Board meeting, we realized that the State Board action that gave Kaplan University conditional approval was inadvertently left out of the November 2005 minutes.

Therefore, we are asking you to modify those minutes to include this action:

Teacher Intern Program and Master of Education Program – Kaplan University

Arlie Willems, Administrative Consultant, Practitioner Preparation, reviewed the findings of the evaluation team visit conducted in January 2005 and the revised Institutional Reports and supplemental materials submitted by Kaplan University in August. A review team met in September 2005 to discuss the revised work. The review team determined that five of the six standards areas had been met; a number of concerns and questions remained concerning the clinical standards. Kaplan University had addressed these concerns and questions in a rejoinder to the state.

Willems introduced Dale Barber, Becky Shermis, Lynn Massenzio and Dwight Carlson who were in attendance from Kaplan University.

Ms. Willems commended Kaplan University for the extensive work required to address the needs noted in the initial review report. The cooperation of administrators and faculty was excellent. The Department is recommending Kaplan University Teacher Intern Program and Master of Education Program for conditional approval by the State Board of Education. She indicated that as the first cohort of candidates completed each of the programs (during internship/or student teaching), another team would return and evaluate the program in terms of the quality of preparation of these interns/candidates. Feedback from the students and area practitioners will be critical in this phase. When the program demonstrates that it can successfully prepare quality teachers, the State Board of Education will receive a recommendation to grant the programs full approval.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning the student disruption in their current programs and the quality of the preparation received. Director Jeffrey said the program should be implemented before the Board granted full approval.

Motion: It was moved by Sally Frudden and seconded by Wayne Kobberdahl to grant conditional approval to Kaplan University's Teacher Intern and Master of Education programs until a focused visit evaluates the program in terms of the quality of preparation of its first cohorts of interns/candidates.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

